

TOWN OF HERNDON

Enriching the Quality of Life and Promoting a Sense of Community



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TOWN OF HERNDON'S HOME FORECLOSURE CHECK PROGRAM WINS PRESTIGIOUS VIRGINIA MUNICIPAL LEAGUE ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Herndon, VA (September 15, 2010) – The Town of Herndon's Home Foreclosure Check Program, an inter-departmental effort to combat the negative impact of foreclosed homes on neighborhoods, has been named the winner in its population category for the Virginia Municipal League's (VML) 2010 Achievement Award.

Herndon's entry into the VML's awards competition detailed efforts by the Herndon Police Department, the Town Attorney's Office and the departments of Community Development and Public Works to identify and secure foreclosed and abandoned homes. The program also encompassed home maintenance and upkeep, helping to mitigate the detrimental impact of these properties on surrounding homes and neighborhoods.

As a result of the coordinated, multi-pronged efforts involved in the Home Foreclosure Check Program, calls for police service related to abandoned homes declined from 383 in 2008 to 38 in 2009 and to zero in 2010.

In selecting Herndon's program for its award, VML judges said, "Herndon's town government devised and executed an effective plan to mitigate the adverse effects caused by an unprecedented number of foreclosed and abandoned homes in the town. Without the intervention and dogged determination of the town government, a bad situation brought on by the well-documented collapse of the housing market – fueled by the reckless use of subprime mortgages – could have spiraled completely out of control."

The VML Award will be presented to Mayor Steve DeBenedittis and members of the Herndon Town Council at the annual VML Conference in Hampton, Virginia, October 3-5, 2010.

[To view the Town of Herndon's award submission in its entirety, click here.](#)

The Town of Herndon was incorporated by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia on January 14, 1879. Located in western Fairfax County, Herndon is the 3rd largest town in the Commonwealth and is home to more than 23,000 citizens. Businesses located within the Town of Herndon, which range from high tech enterprises to entrepreneurially-owned establishments, employ approximately 25,000 people. *Business Week* Magazine has named Herndon one of the nation's "Best Affordable Suburbs," and *Money* Magazine has ranked Herndon among its "Best Places for the Rich and Single."

For more information, visit the town's Web site at www.herndon-va.gov.

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